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EXAMINER

MISLEH, JUSTIN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/600,876	Applicant(s) PANDIT ET AL.	
	Examiner Justin P. Misleh	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claims 1, 19, 12, and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1 – 25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kayanuma (US 2002/0186317 A1; herein referred to as K-1) in view of Kusaka (US 5,652,935) in further view of Kayanuma (US 2002/0149695 A1; herein referred to as K-2).
4. For **Claim 1**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 – 4, a camera tripod (60) for a digital camera (10) comprising: a camera mount (30); and a set of tripod legs that supports the camera mount (clearly shown in figure 4).

K-1 discloses the desirability to provide increased camera flexibility by stating, “the camera attitude depends on the main body of the cradle, and therefore, there is little flexibility in the camera angle, thus causing inconveniences” (see paragraph 0006). K-1 also discloses the desirability to provide a stable, yet flexible, picture-taking environment by further stating, “since the tripod screw hole is provided in the cradle for the digital camera, the cradle can be fixed on

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the tripod while the digital camera is being inserted into the cradle ... [which] makes it possible to freely set the direction or angle of the camera by using the platform of the tripod, thus increasing the flexibility in setting arrangement” (see paragraphs 0011 and 0012). Finally, K-1 discloses providing stability for the camera cradle (30) by stating, “the tripod male screw 66 is screwed in the tripod screw hole 42 and engaged therewith, thus fixing the cradle 30 with stability” (see paragraph 0063). However, K-1 does not specifically disclose the tripod legs being integral to the camera mount.

On the other hand, Kasuka also provides a camera, camera mount, and tripod. Analogous to K-1, Kasuka teaches the desirability to maintain camera stability in a picture-taking environment (see column 1, lines 10 – 15; column 2, lines 40 – 50; and column 3, lines 5 – 16). Specifically, Kasuka teaches, as shown in figures 1, 9, and 14, a camera (1), a camera mount (4 and 5), and a tripod (3). Kasuka additionally teaches, as stated in column 2 (line 54) – column 3 (line 4), wherein the tripod (3) integrally comprises a camera mount (4 and 5) having an anchoring component (5) and a variable member (4). Also, Kasuka states the tripod (3) may be provided with a “tripod head controller 56 (which also can be, for example, an ASIC or programmed CPU)” for the “exchange [of] information” between the camera (1) and the tripod (3; see column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 41). Finally, Kasuka shows, in figure 1, wherein tripod legs (5B) are integral to and support the camera mount (4 and 5).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount (as taught by Kasuka) in the camera tripod (disclosed by K-1) for the advantage of providing a tripod in which camera setup (or rather

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image composition) “changes can be effected with high speed and by means of a simple operation” (see Kasuka; column 1, lines 46 – 50; and column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 3).

While K-1 in view of Kasuka provide a camera tripod with an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount; K-1 in view of Kasuka do not specifically disclose wherein tripod memory housed in the camera mount.

On the other hand, K-2 also discloses a camera mount for a digital camera. Specifically, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 4, 7, and 8, a camera mount (100) for a digital camera (10) having memory (170) housed in the camera mount (100).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included a memory housed in a camera mount (as taught by K-2) so as to be a tripod memory in the tripod having a camera mount (disclosed in combination by K-1 in view of Kasuka) for the advantage of *digital camera data backup* (see K-2; paragraph 0014).

5. As for **Claim 2**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figure 2 and as stated in paragraph 0046, wherein the digital camera (10) has a recording medium (which can either be internal or removable) for recording/reproducing a still image and sound-accompanying moving image. However, K-2 additionally teaches, as stated in paragraphs 0063 – 0068, wherein the tripod memory (170) provides memory storage for the digital camera (10) in addition to a memory (48) of the digital camera (10).

6. As for **Claim 3**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figure 1, and K-2 discloses, as shown in figures 7 and 8, an electrical portion (34/104, respectively) on the camera mount (30/100; respectively) that electrically interfaces to the digital camera (10). However, in figure 8 of K-2,

the tripod memory (170) is shown to be connected to the electrical portion (104) such that the tripod memory (170) is accessible to the digital camera (10).

7. As for **Claim 4**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figure 3 and 4 and as stated in paragraph 0052, wherein the camera mount (30) further comprises an input/output (I/O) port (52) that electrically interfaces the electrical portion (34) to an external device or system (e.g., PC).

8. As for **Claim 5**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 and 2, wherein the camera mount (30) further comprises a mechanical portion (42/44) that mechanically interfaces to the digital camera (10) to fasten the digital camera (10) to the camera tripod (60).

9. As for **Claim 6**, K-2 additionally teaches, as shown in figure 8 and as stated in paragraphs 0063 – 0068, wherein when the digital camera (10) is electrically interfaced (104) to the camera mount (100), data is transferred between a camera memory (100) of the digital camera (10) and the tripod memory (170).

10. As for **Claim 7**, because of the alternative language (e.g., or), the language only requires a tripod power source (a) housed in the camera mount, or (b) housed in a leg of the set of tripod legs, or (c) housed both in the camera mount and in the leg of the set of tripod legs. In paragraph 0061, K-2 additionally teaches, a tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) housed in the camera mount (100).

11. As for **Claim 8**, K-2 additionally teaches, in paragraphs 0042 and 0052, wherein the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) provides power to the digital camera (10) in addition to a battery-based power source (52) of the digital camera, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing power to the digital camera (10) to extend an operational life of a battery (“charging”) of the digital camera (10).

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12. As for **Claim 9**, K-2 discloses, as stated in paragraph 0042, a rechargeable type battery for the camera mount (100).

13. As for **Claim 10**, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 8 and in paragraphs 0042, 0052, and 0063 – 0068, wherein the camera mount (100) comprises an electrical portion (104) that electrically interfaces to the digital camera (see paragraph 0041), the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) and the tripod memory (170) being connected to the electrical portion (104) such that the tripod power source and the tripod memory are accessible to the digital camera.

14. As for **Claim 11**, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0042, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) charging the digital camera (10) battery (52). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0061, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing operational/driving power to the digital camera (10). Thus, it is clear that K-2 additionally teaches wherein the tripod power source provides one or both of operational power to the digital camera and energy to recharge a battery of the digital camera when the digital camera is electrically interfaced to the camera mount.

15. For **Claim 12**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 – 4, a camera tripod (60) for a digital camera (10) comprising: a camera mount (30); and a set of tripod legs that supports the camera mount (clearly shown in figure 4).

K-1 discloses the desirability to provide increased camera flexibility by stating, “the camera attitude depends on the main body of the cradle, and therefore, there is little flexibility in the camera angle, thus causing inconveniences” (see paragraph 0006). K-1 also discloses the desirability to provide a stable, yet flexible, picture-taking environment by further stating, “since

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the tripod screw hole is provided in the cradle for the digital camera, the cradle can be fixed on the tripod while the digital camera is being inserted into the cradle ... [which] makes it possible to freely set the direction or angle of the camera by using the platform of the tripod, thus increasing the flexibility in setting arrangement” (see paragraphs 0011 and 0012). Finally, K-1 discloses providing stability for the camera cradle (30) by stating, “the tripod male screw 66 is screwed in the tripod screw hole 42 and engaged therewith, thus fixing the cradle 30 with stability” (see paragraph 0063). However, K-1 does not specifically disclose the tripod legs being integral to the camera mount.

On the other hand, Kasuka also provides a camera, camera mount, and tripod. Analogous to K-1, Kasuka teaches the desirability to maintain camera stability in a picture-taking environment (see column 1, lines 10 – 15; column 2, lines 40 – 50; and column 3, lines 5 – 16). Specifically, Kasuka teaches, as shown in figures 1, 9, and 14, a camera (1), a camera mount (4 and 5), and a tripod (3). Kasuka additionally teaches, as stated in column 2 (line 54) – column 3 (line 4), wherein the tripod (3) integrally comprises a camera mount (4 and 5) having an anchoring component (5) and a variable member (4). Also, Kasuka states the tripod (3) may be provided with a “tripod head controller 56 (which also can be, for example, an ASIC or programmed CPU)” for the “exchange [of] information” between the camera (1) and the tripod (3; see column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 41). Finally, Kasuka shows, in figure 1, wherein tripod legs (5B) are integral to and support the camera mount (4 and 5).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount (as taught by Kasuka) in the camera tripod

(disclosed by K-1) for the advantage of providing a tripod in which camera setup (or rather image composition) “changes can be effected with high speed and by means of a simple operation” (see Kasuka; column 1, lines 46 – 50; and column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 3).

While K-1 in view of Kasuka provide a camera tripod with an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount; K-1 in view of Kasuka do not specifically disclose wherein tripod memory housed in the camera mount or because of the alternative language (e.g., or), a tripod power source (a) housed in the camera mount, or (b) housed in a leg of the set of tripod legs, or (c) housed both in the camera mount and in the leg of the set of tripod legs.

On the other hand, K-2 also discloses a camera mount for a digital camera. Specifically, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 4, 7, and 8, a camera mount (100) for a digital camera (10) having memory (170) housed in the camera mount (100). In paragraph 0061, K-2 additionally teaches, a tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) housed in the camera mount (100).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included a memory housed in a camera mount (as taught by K-2) and a tripod power source housed in the camera mount (also as taught by K-2) so as to be a tripod memory in the tripod having a camera mount (disclosed by the combination of K-1 in view of Kasuka) for the advantage of *digital camera data backup* (see K-2; paragraph 0014).

16. As for **Claim 13**, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 8 and in paragraphs 0042, 0052, and 0063 – 0068, wherein the camera mount (100) comprises an electrical portion (104) that electrically interfaces to the digital camera (see paragraph 0041), the tripod power source

(“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) and the tripod memory (170) being connected to the electrical portion (104) such that the tripod power source and the tripod memory are accessible to the digital camera.

17. As for **Claim 14**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 and 2, wherein the camera mount (30) further comprises a mechanical portion (42/44) that mechanically interfaces to the digital camera (10) to fasten the digital camera (10) to the camera tripod (60).

18. As for **Claim 15**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figure 2 and as stated in paragraph 0046, wherein the digital camera (10) has a recording medium (which can either be internal or removable) for recording/reproducing a still image and sound-accompanying moving image. However, K-2 additionally teaches, as stated in paragraphs 0063 – 0068, wherein the tripod memory (170) provides memory storage for the digital camera (10) in addition to a memory (48) of the digital camera (10). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0042, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) charging the digital camera (10) battery (52). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0061, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing operational/driving power to the digital camera (10). Thus, it is clear that K-2 additionally teaches wherein the tripod power source provides one or both of operational power to the digital camera and energy to recharge a battery of the digital camera when the digital camera is electrically interfaced to the camera mount.

19. As for **Claim 16**, K-2 discloses, as stated in paragraph 0042, a rechargeable type battery for the camera mount (100).

20. As for **Claim 17**, because of the alternative language (e.g., or), the language only requires wherein the tripod power source further comprises a power supply circuit that comprises at least

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one of (a) a battery conditioner, (b) a battery charger, (c) and a power conditioner. Furthermore, in the same regard the power supply circuit facilitating at least one of (d) charging the tripod battery, or (e) powering the tripod memory, or (f) powering the digital camera, and (g) charging a battery of the digital camera.

K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0042, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) charging the digital camera (10) battery (52). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0061, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing operational/driving power to the digital camera (10). Thus, it is clear that K-2 additionally teaches wherein the tripod power source further comprises a power supply circuit that comprises a battery charger and wherein the power supply circuit facilitates powering the digital camera.

21. As for **Claim 18**, because of the alternative language (e.g., or), the language only requires a tripod power port connected to (a) the tripod power source, or (b) an electrical portion of the camera mount, or (c) both the tripod power port and the electrical portion of the camera mount. In figures 1 – 3, K-1 discloses a tripod power port (48) connected to an electrical portion (34) of the camera mount (30; see paragraph 0052). K-1 additionally discloses, also in paragraph 0052, the tripod power port (48) optionally (see figure 3) comprises an alternating current (AC) adapter that interfaces the tripod power source to an external AC power outlet.

22. For **Claim 19**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 – 4, a method of using a camera tripod (60) with a digital camera (10) comprising:

connecting the digital camera (10) to a camera mount (30) of the camera tripod (60), the camera mount (30) comprising an electrical portion (34).

K-1 discloses the desirability to provide increased camera flexibility by stating, “the camera attitude depends on the main body of the cradle, and therefore, there is little flexibility in the camera angle, thus causing inconveniences” (see paragraph 0006). K-1 also discloses the desirability to provide a stable, yet flexible, picture-taking environment by further stating, “since the tripod screw hole is provided in the cradle for the digital camera, the cradle can be fixed on the tripod while the digital camera is being inserted into the cradle ... [which] makes it possible to freely set the direction or angle of the camera by using the platform of the tripod, thus increasing the flexibility in setting arrangement” (see paragraphs 0011 and 0012). Finally, K-1 discloses providing stability for the camera cradle (30) by stating, “the tripod male screw 66 is screwed in the tripod screw hole 42 and engaged therewith, thus fixing the cradle 30 with stability” (see paragraph 0063). However, K-1 does not specifically disclose the tripod legs being integral to the camera mount.

On the other hand, Kasuka also provides a camera, camera mount, and tripod. Analogous to K-1, Kasuka teaches the desirability to maintain camera stability in a picture-taking environment (see column 1, lines 10 – 15; column 2, lines 40 – 50; and column 3, lines 5 – 16). Specifically, Kasuka teaches, as shown in figures 1, 9, and 14, a camera (1), a camera mount (4 and 5), and a tripod (3). Kasuka additionally teaches, as stated in column 2 (line 54) – column 3 (line 4), wherein the tripod (3) integrally comprises a camera mount (4 and 5) having an anchoring component (5) and a variable member (4). Also, Kasuka states the tripod (3) may be provided with a “tripod head controller 56 (which also can be, for example, an ASIC or programmed CPU)” for the “exchange [of] information” between the camera (1) and the tripod

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(3; see column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 41). Finally, Kasuka shows, in figure 1, wherein tripod legs (5B) are integral to and support the camera mount (4 and 5).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount (as taught by Kasuka) in the camera tripod (disclosed by K-1) for the advantage of providing a tripod in which camera setup (or rather image composition) “changes can be effected with high speed and by means of a simple operation” (see Kasuka; column 1, lines 46 – 50; and column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 3).

While K-1 in view of Kasuka provide a camera tripod with an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount; K-1 in view of Kasuka do not specifically disclose wherein tripod memory housed in the camera mount.

On the other hand, K-2 also discloses a camera mount for a digital camera. Specifically, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 4, 7, and 8, a camera mount (100) for a digital camera (10) having memory (170) housed in the camera mount (100).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included a memory housed in a camera mount (as taught by K-2) so as to be a tripod memory in the tripod having a camera mount (disclosed in combination by K-1 in view of Kasuka) for the advantage of *digital camera data backup* (see K-2; paragraph 0014).

23. As for **Claim 20**, K-1/K-2 in combination teach wherein the electrical portion (34/104) of the camera mount (100) further has a tripod battery (K-2’s “large-capacity battery”), connecting further comprises interfacing the digital camera to the tripod battery.

K-1 discloses, as shown in figure 3 and 4 and as stated in paragraph 0052, wherein the camera mount (30) further comprises an input/output (I/O) port (52) that electrically interfaces the electrical portion (34) to an external device or system (e.g., PC).

K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0042, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) charging the digital camera (10) battery (52). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0061, the tripod power source (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing operational/driving power to the digital camera (10). Thus, it is clear that K-2 additionally teaches wherein the tripod power source provides one or both of operational power to the digital camera and energy to recharge a battery of the digital camera when the digital camera is electrically interfaced to the camera mount.

24. For **Claim 21**, K-1 discloses, as shown in figures 1 – 4, a camera tripod (60) for a digital camera (10) comprising: a camera mount (30); and a means for supporting the camera mount (clearly shown in figure 4).

K-1 discloses the desirability to provide increased camera flexibility by stating, “the camera attitude depends on the main body of the cradle, and therefore, there is little flexibility in the camera angle, thus causing inconveniences” (see paragraph 0006). K-1 also discloses the desirability to provide a stable, yet flexible, picture-taking environment by further stating, “since the tripod screw hole is provided in the cradle for the digital camera, the cradle can be fixed on the tripod while the digital camera is being inserted into the cradle ... [which] makes it possible to freely set the direction or angle of the camera by using the platform of the tripod, thus increasing the flexibility in setting arrangement” (see paragraphs 0011 and 0012). Finally, K-1 discloses providing stability for the camera cradle (30) by stating, “the tripod male screw 66 is

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screwed in the tripod screw hole 42 and engaged therewith, thus fixing the cradle 30 with stability” (see paragraph 0063). However, K-1 does not specifically disclose the tripod legs being integral to the camera mount.

On the other hand, Kasuka also provides a camera, camera mount, and tripod. Analogous to K-1, Kasuka teaches the desirability to maintain camera stability in a picture-taking environment (see column 1, lines 10 – 15; column 2, lines 40 – 50; and column 3, lines 5 – 16). Specifically, Kasuka teaches, as shown in figures 1, 9, and 14, a camera (1), a camera mount (4 and 5), and a tripod (3). Kasuka additionally teaches, as stated in column 2 (line 54) – column 3 (line 4), wherein the tripod (3) integrally comprises a camera mount (4 and 5) having an anchoring component (5) and a variable member (4). Also, Kasuka states the tripod (3) may be provided with a “tripod head controller 56 (which also can be, for example, an ASIC or programmed CPU)” for the “exchange [of] information” between the camera (1) and the tripod (3; see column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 41). Finally, Kasuka shows, in figure 1, wherein tripod legs (5B) are integral to and support the camera mount (4 and 5).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount (as taught by Kasuka) in the camera tripod (disclosed by K-1) for the advantage of providing a tripod in which camera setup (or rather image composition) “changes can be effected with high speed and by means of a simple operation” (see Kasuka; column 1, lines 46 – 50; and column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 3).

While K-1 in view of Kasuka provide a camera tripod with an integrally formed camera mount and integrally formed tripod legs to support the camera mount; K-1 in view of Kasuka do not specifically disclose wherein tripod memory housed in the camera mount.

On the other hand, K-2 also discloses a camera mount for a digital camera. Specifically, K-2 teaches, as shown in figure 4, 7, and 8, a camera mount (100) for a digital camera (10) having memory (170) housed in the camera mount (100).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to have included a memory housed in a camera mount (as taught by K-2) so as to be a tripod memory in the tripod having a camera mount (disclosed in combination by K-1 in view of Kasuka) for the advantage of *digital camera data backup* (see K-2; paragraph 0014).

25. As for **Claim 22**, K-2 additionally teaches, as shown in figure 8 and as stated in paragraphs 0063 – 0068, wherein when the digital camera (10) is electrically interfaced (104) to the camera mount (100), data is transferred between a camera memory (100) of the digital camera (10) and the means for storing (170).

26. As for **Claim 23**, because of the alternative language (e.g., or), the language only requires a means for supplying power (a) housed in the camera mount, or (b) housed in the means for supporting, or (c) housed both in the camera mount and in the means for supporting. In paragraph 0061, K-2 additionally teaches, a means for supplying power (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) housed in the camera mount (100). Furthermore, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0042, the means for supplying power (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) charging the digital camera (10) battery (52). Moreover, K-2 teaches, in paragraph 0061, the means for supplying power (“large-capacity battery” or power cable 131) providing operational/driving

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power to the digital camera (10). Thus, it is clear that K-2 additionally teaches wherein the means for supplying power energizing one or more of the digital camera and a battery of the digital camera when interfaced to the camera mount and the means for storing.

27. As for **Claim 24**, K-2 discloses, as stated in paragraph 0042, a rechargeable type battery for the camera mount (100).

28. As for **Claim 25**, because of the alternative language (e.g., or), the language only requires that the means for storing data comprises (a) an internal memory, or (b) a removable memory, or (c) both an internal memory and a removable memory. In regards to option (a), K-2 teaches, in paragraphs 0063 – 0068, wherein the means for storing is a removable memory.

Conclusion

29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


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30. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Justin P Misleh whose telephone number is 571.272.7313. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on 571.272.7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571.273.3000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JPM
December 15, 2006



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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